

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

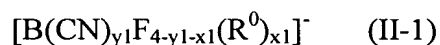
Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Cationic dyes of the general formula I



where Y⁻ is an anion selected from the group CAB⁻, FAP⁻, FAB⁻ or Im⁻,

where CAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-1)



and

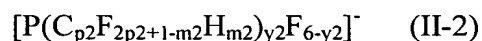
y₁ denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x₁ denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl,

with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y₁ is >2,

where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



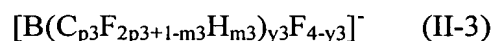
with

p₂: 1 to 20,

m₂: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₂: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



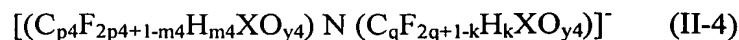
with

p₃ 1 to 20,

m₃ 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₃ 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p_4 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m_4 \leq 2p_4+1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q+1$,

y_4 denotes 1 or 2,

where $m_4 = 0$ if $p_4 = 0$ and $k = 0$ if $q = 0$,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y_4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y_4 denotes 1 and p_4 or $q \geq 1$,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F,

and

CAT⁺ is a cation selected from the group of the azine, xanthene, polymethine, styryl, azo, tetrazolium, pyrylium, benzopyrylium, thiopyrylium,

benzothiopyrylium, thiazine, oxazine, triarylmethane, diarylmethane, acridine, quinoline, isoquinoline or quaternised azafluorenone dyes,

where 3,3'-diethoxyethyl-2,2'-thiadibocyanine trifluoromethyltrifluoroborate is excluded.

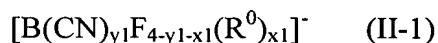
2. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT⁺ is a cation of an azine dye.
3. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT⁺ is a cation of a xanthene dye.
4. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT⁺ is a cation of a polymethine dye.
5. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT⁺ is a cation of a styryl dye.

6. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of an azo dye.
7. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a tetrazolium dye.
8. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a pyrylium dye.
9. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a benzopyrylium dye.
10. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a thiopyrylium dye.
11. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a benzothiopyrylium dye.
12. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a thiazine dye.
13. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of an oxazine dye.
14. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a triarylmethane dye.
15. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a diarylmethane dye.

16. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of an acridine dye.
17. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a quinoline dye.
18. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of an isoquinoline dye.
19. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 1, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a quaternary azafluorenone dye.
20. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a cyanine dye.
21. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a carbocyanine dye.
22. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of an azacarbocyanine dye.
23. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a diazacarbocyanine dye.
24. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a triazacarbocyanine dye.
25. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT^+ is a cation of a hemicyanine dye.

26. (Original) Dyes according to Claim 4, characterised in that CAT⁺ is a cation of a diazahemicyanine dye.

27. (Currently Amended) Dyes according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 26~~, characterised in that Y⁻ is a cyanoborate of the formula II-1



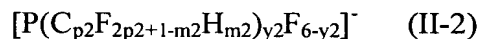
and

y1 denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2.

28. (Currently Amended) Dyes according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 26~~, characterised in that Y⁻ is a fluoroalkylphosphate of the formula II-2



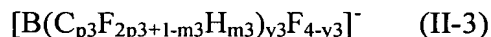
with

p2: 1 to 20,

m2: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y2: 1, 2, 3 or 4.

29. (Currently Amended) Dyes according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 26~~, characterised in that Y⁻ is a fluoroalkylborate of the formula II-3



with

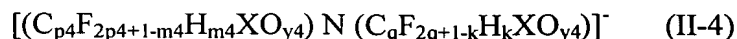
p3 1 to 20,

m3 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y3 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where 3,3'-diethoxyethyl-2,2'-thiadiborocyanine trifluoromethyltrifluoroborate is excluded.

30. (Currently Amended) Dyes according to claim 1 ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 26~~, characterised in that Y⁻ is an imide of the formula II-4



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p₄ denotes 0 to 20 and 0 ≤ m₄ ≤ 2p₄+1,

q₄ denotes 0 to 20 and 0 ≤ k₄ ≤ 2q₄+1,

y₄ denotes 1 or 2,

where m₄ = 0 if p₄ = 0 and k₄ = 0 if q₄ = 0,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y₄ denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y₄ denotes 1 and p₄ or q₄ ≥ 1,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

31. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of cationic dyes according to claim 1 ~~one of Claims 1 to 30~~, characterised in that

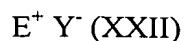
a compound of the general formula XXI



where CAT⁺ is a cation selected from the group of the azine, xanthene, polymethine, styryl, azo, tetrazolium, pyrylium, benzopyrylium, thiopyrylium, benzothiopyrylium, thiazine, oxazine, triarylmethane, diarylmethane, acridine, quinoline, isoquinoline or quaternised azafluorenone dyes

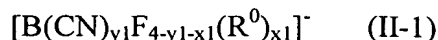
and A⁻ denotes Cl⁻, Br⁻, I⁻, BF₄⁻, PF₆⁻, ClO₄⁻, sulfate, tosylate, hydrosulfate, triflate, trifluoroacetate, acetate or oxalate,

is reacted with a compound of the general formula XXII



where Y⁻ is an anion selected from the group CAB⁻, FAP⁻, FAB⁻ or Im⁻,

where CAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-1)



and

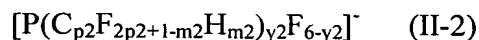
y₁ denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x₁ denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl,

with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y₁ is >2,

where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



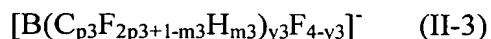
with

p₂: 1 to 20,

m₂: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₂: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



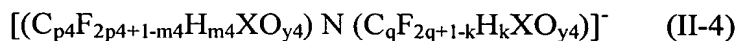
with

p₃ 1 to 20,

m₃ 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₃ 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p₄ denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m_4 \leq 2p_4+1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q+1$,

y₄ denotes 1 or 2,

where m₄ = 0 if p₄ = 0 and k = 0 if q = 0,

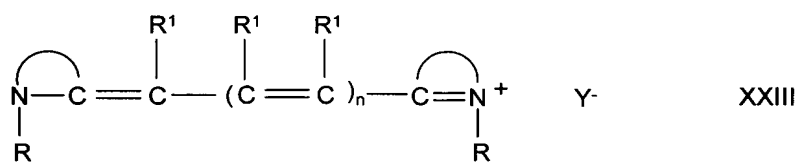
with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y₄ denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y₄ denotes 1 and p₄ or q ≥ 1,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F, and

E^+ is a cation of the alkali metals, alkaline earth metals or of a metal from group 11 and 12, ammonium, alkylammonium containing C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, phosphonium, alkylphosphonium containing C_1 - C_4 -alkyl or guanidinium.

32. (Original) Process for the preparation of carbocyanine dyes according to Claim 21, where the carbocyanine dye conforms to the formula XXIII



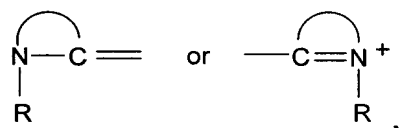
in which

n denotes 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5,

R in each case, independently of one another, denotes alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl and

R^1 in each case, independently of one another, denotes H, Cl, Br, I, alkyl, partially or fully chlorinated alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, Oalkyl, Oaryl, Salkyl, Saryl, NHalkyl, $N(\text{alkyl})_2$, $C(O)H$, $C(O)\text{alkyl}$, $C(O)\text{aryl}$, CN, $N=N\text{-aryl}$, $P(\text{aryl})_2$, $NHC(O)\text{alkyl}$ or $NHC(O)\text{aryl}$ and

the ring system, represented by



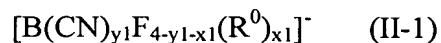
denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, which may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms and in which the heterocyclic radical may be mono- or polysubstituted by Z,

Z denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO_2 , F, Cl, Br, I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF_3 , COOalkyl, $\text{CH}_2\text{-COOalkyl}$, NH_2 , NHalkyl or $N(\text{alkyl})_2$

and

where Y^- is an anion selected from the group CAB^- , FAP^- , FAB^- or Im^- ,

where CAB^- conforms to the general formula (II-1)



and

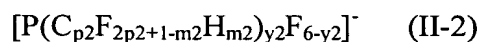
y1 denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl,

with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



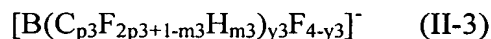
with

p2: 1 to 20,

m2: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y2: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



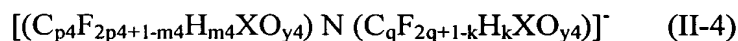
with

p3 1 to 20,

m3 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y3 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m4 \leq 2p4+1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q+1$,

y4 denotes 1 or 2,

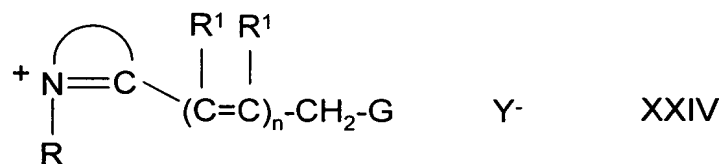
where $m4 = 0$ if $p4 = 0$ and $k = 0$ if $q = 0$,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y4 denotes 1 and $p4$ or $q \geq 1$,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F,

characterised in that use is made of a compound of the formula XXIV

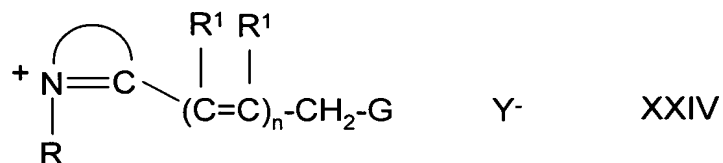


where the ring system, R, R¹ and Y⁻ have one of the meanings indicated in the case of formula XXIII and

n denotes 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

G denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, N=C(R)₂, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl or CONHalkyl.

33. (Original) Compounds of the formula XXIV



where

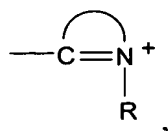
n denotes 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

G denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, N=C(R)₂, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl or CONHalkyl,

R denotes alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

R¹ in each case, independently of one another, denotes H, Cl, Br, I, alkyl, partially or fully chlorinated alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, Oalkyl, Oaryl, Salkyl, Saryl, NHalkyl, N(alkyl)₂, C(O)H, C(O)alkyl, C(O)aryl, CN, N=N-aryl, P(aryl)₂, NHC(O)alkyl or NHC(O)aryl and

the ring system, represented by

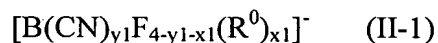


denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle

having 5 to 13 ring members, which may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms and in which the heterocyclic radical may be mono- or polysubstituted by Z,

Z denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO₂, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF₃, COOalkyl, CH₂-COOalkyl, NH₂, NHalkyl or N(alkyl)₂ and

where Y⁻ is an anion selected from the group CAB⁻, FAP⁻, FAB⁻ or Im⁻, where CAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-1)



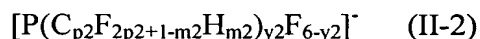
and

y₁ denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x₁ denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y₁ is >2,

where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



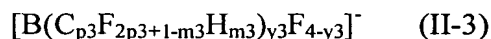
with

p₂: 1 to 20,

m₂: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₂: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



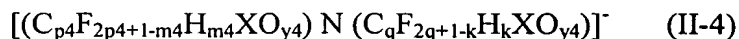
with

p₃ 1 to 20,

m₃ 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₃ 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p_4 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m_4 \leq 2p_4 + 1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q + 1$,

y_4 denotes 1 or 2,

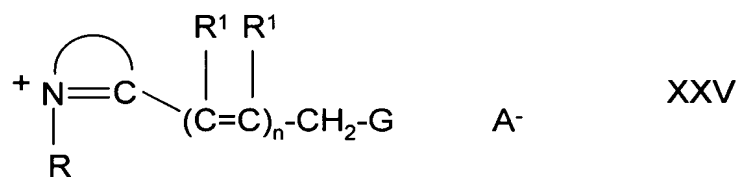
where $m_4 = 0$ if $p_4 = 0$ and $k = 0$ if $q = 0$,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y_4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y_4 denotes 1 and p_4 or $q \geq 1$,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

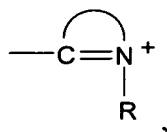
34. (Original) Process for the preparation of the compounds of the formula XXIV according to Claim 33,
characterised in that
a compound of the formula XXV



in which

A^- denotes Cl^- , Br^- , I^- , BF_4^- , PF_6^- , ClO_4^- , sulfate, tosylate, hydrosulfate, triflate, trifluoroacetate, acetate or oxalate,

the ring system, represented by



denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, which may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms and in which the heterocyclic radical may be mono- or polysubstituted by Z,

Z denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO₂, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF₃, COOalkyl, CH₂-COOalkyl, NH₂, NHalkyl or N(alkyl)₂,

n denotes 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4,

R denotes alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

R¹ in each case, independently of one another, denotes H, Cl, Br, I, alkyl, partially or fully chlorinated alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, Oalkyl, Oaryl, Salkyl, Saryl, NHalkyl, N(alkyl)₂, C(O)H, C(O)alkyl, C(O)aryl, CN, N=N-aryl, P(aryl)₂, NHC(O)alkyl or NHC(O)aryl and

G denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, N=C(R)₂, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl or CONHalkyl,

is reacted with a compound of the formula XXVI

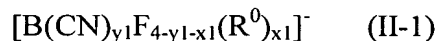


in which

E⁺ is a cation of the alkali metals, alkaline earth metals or of a metal from group 11 and 12, ammonium, alkylammonium containing C₁-C₄-alkyl, phosphonium, alkylphosphonium containing C₁-C₄-alkyl or guanidinium and

where Y⁻ is an anion selected from the group CAB⁻, FAP⁻, FAB⁻ or Im⁻,

where CAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-1)



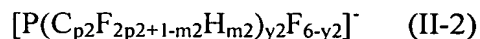
and

y1 denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



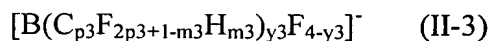
with

p2: 1 to 20,

m2: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y2: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



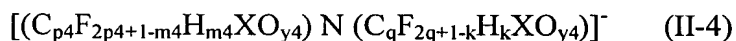
with

p3 1 to 20,

m3 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y3 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m4 \leq 2p4+1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q+1$,

y4 denotes 1 or 2,

where m4 = 0 if p4 = 0 and k = 0 if q = 0,

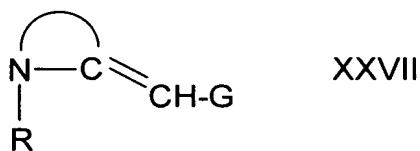
with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y4 denotes 1 and $p4$ or $q \geq 1$,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

35. (Original) Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula XXIV according to Claim 33, with the restriction that n in formula XXIV denotes 0, characterised in that

a compound of the formula XXVII



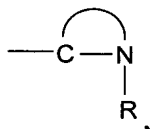
in which

G denotes hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $N=C(R)_2$, CONHaryl, C(O)aryl or CONHalkyl and

R denotes alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl

and

the ring system, represented by



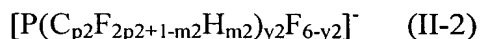
denotes a nitrogen-containing unsaturated mono-, bi- or tricyclic heterocycle having 5 to 13 ring members, which may furthermore contain 1, 2 or 3 N and/or 1 or 2 S or O atoms and in which the heterocyclic radical may be mono- or polysubstituted by Z,

Z denotes hydrogen, alkyl, NO_2 , F, Cl, Br, I, OH, COOH, Oalkyl, SCN, SCF_3 , COOalkyl, $CH_2-COOalkyl$, NH_2 , NHalkyl or $N(alkyl)_2$,

is reacted with HY,

where Y^- is an anion selected from the group FAP^- , FAB^- or Im^- ,

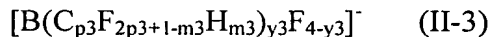
where FAP^- conforms to the general formula (II-2)



with

p2: 1 to 20,
m2: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and
y2: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB^- conforms to the general formula (II-3)

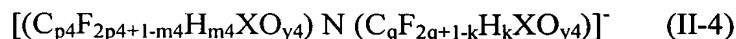


with

p3 1 to 20,
m3 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y₃ 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p₄ denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m_4 \leq 2p_4+1$,

q₄ denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k_4 \leq 2q_4+1$,

y₄ denotes 1 or 2,

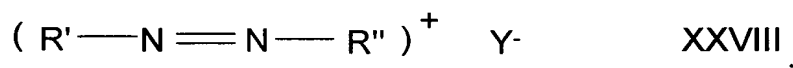
where m₄ = 0 if p₄ = 0 and k₄ = 0 if q₄ = 0,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y₄ denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y₄ denotes 1 and p₄ or q₄ ≥ 1,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

36. (Original) Process for the preparation of azo dyes according to Claim 6, where the azo dye conforms to the formula XXVIII

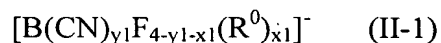


where

R' and R'' denote aryl or heteroaryl and one of the two aromatic nuclei is positively charged and

where Y⁻ is an anion selected from the group CAB⁻, FAP⁻, FAB⁻ or Im⁻,

where CAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-1)



and

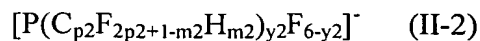
y₁ denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x₁ denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl,

with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y₁ is >2,

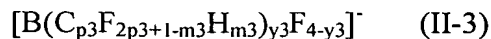
where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



with

p2: 1 to 20,
m2: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and
y2: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

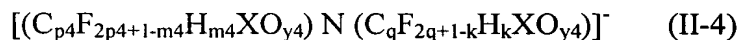
where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



with

p3 1 to 20,
m3 0, 1, 2 or 3 and
y3 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p4 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m4 \leq 2p4+1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q+1$,

y4 denotes 1 or 2,

where $m4 = 0$ if $p4 = 0$ and $k = 0$ if $q = 0$,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y4 denotes 1 and $p4$ or $q \geq 1$,

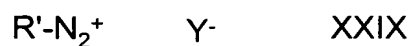
and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formula II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F,

characterised in that a compound of the formula XXIX



where R' and Y⁻ has one of the meaning indicated in the case of formula XXVIII, is reacted with the aromatic cyclic or heterocyclic compound R''.

37. (Original) Compounds of the formula XXIX

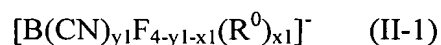


in which

R' denotes aryl or heteroaryl and

where Y⁻ is an anion selected from the group CAB⁻, FAP⁻, FAB⁻ or Im⁻,

where CAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-1)



and

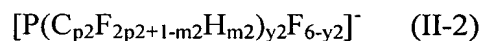
y1 denotes 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 denotes 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

R⁰ denotes alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl,

with the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2,

where FAP⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-2)



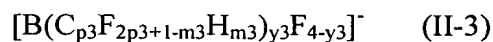
with

p2: 1 to 20,

m2: 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y2: 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where FAB⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-3)



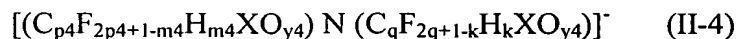
with

p3 1 to 20,

m3 0, 1, 2 or 3 and

y3 1, 2, 3 or 4,

where Im⁻ conforms to the general formula (II-4)



and the variables

X denotes carbon or sulfur,

p_4 denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq m_4 \leq 2p_4+1$,

q denotes 0 to 20 and $0 \leq k \leq 2q+1$,

y_4 denotes 1 or 2,

where $m_4 = 0$ if $p_4 = 0$ and $k = 0$ if $q = 0$,

with the proviso

if X is sulfur, y_4 denotes 2 and if X is carbon, y_4 denotes 1 and p_4 or $q \geq 1$,

and where the carbon atoms of the alkyl chain of the formulae II-4 may be bonded to one another by single bonds, where the resultant alkylene chain may in turn be partially or fully substituted by F.

38. (Currently Amended) Use of the dyes according to claim 1 ~~one of Claims 1 to 30~~ for colouring plastics and plastic fibres, for the preparation of flexographic printing inks, as ball-point pen pastes, as stamp ink, for colouring leather and paper, in cosmetic formulations in the paints industry, in biochemistry, biology, medicine, analytics or electronics.

39. (Currently Amended) Use of the dyes according to claim 1 ~~one of Claims 1 to 30~~ in data acquisition systems, reprography, in ink microfilters, in photogalvanics, laser technology or the photo industry.

40. (Currently Amended) Use of the dyes according to claim 1 ~~one of Claims 1 to 30~~ for CD recorders, DVD recorders (DVD+R, DVD+RW), Bluray disc (BD-ROM, BD-R, BD-RE), computer to plate, laser filters, laser marking or photopolymerisation.